

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks the Examiner for examining the pending application. The Office Action dated August 14 2008, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 11-15 are rejected to by the Examiner. With this response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 11 and 14 to further define the invention, and deleted claims 2, 3 and 12. No new matter has been added. Claims 6-10 and 16-20 are withdrawn from consideration. Thus, claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 13-15 remain pending in this application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hebiguchi (US 6,225,967) (hereinafter "Hebiguchi") in view of Wildes et al (US 5,951,304) (hereinafter "Wildes"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

By this response, claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Independent claim 1 is allowable over "Hebiguchi" in view of "Wildes" in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...a plurality of first pad lines extending from the plurality of first drive lines at first angles from the first direction; a plurality of second pad lines extending from the plurality of second drive lines at second angles from the second direction; a plurality of first pads, each extending at the same angle as the angle of the corresponding first pad line and connected to the corresponding first pad line for supplying external drive signals; and a plurality of second pads, each extending at the same angle as the angle of the corresponding second pad line and connected to the corresponding second pad line for supplying external drive signals, wherein the first pads and the first pad lines are formed at relatively large angles in a case where the first drive lines are located at an upper or lower part of a first driving circuit, and wherein the first plurality of drive lines include gate lines and a plurality of second drive lines include data lines"(Emphasis Added). None of the cited references teaches at least these features of the claimed invention. First of all, on the page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that Fig.1 of "Hebiguchi" discloses "a plurality of first pad lines G2-G4 formed at relatively large angles (first pad lines G2-G4 are formed at approximately 180 degrees from first drive lines G1-G3)". Applicant disagrees with this point. See figs. 1-2 and col. 4, lines 24-38. Particularly, col. 4 lines 26-27 show that G1, G2, G3 and G4 are four transversely-extending scanning lines which mean gate lines. Thus, the cited references

including “Hebiguchi” fail to teach at least a plurality of first pad lines. Further, on the page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner also stated that Fig.1 of “Hebiguchi” discloses “a plurality of second pad line S (connected to source driver Sd2)”. Applicant also disagrees with this point. See figs. 1-2 and col. 4, lines 24-38. Particularly, col. 4 line 34 shows that S1 and S2 are signal lines which mean data lines. Thus, the cited references including “Hebiguchi” fail to teach at least a plurality of second pad lines. Furthermore, none of the cited references teaches “a plurality of first pads, each extending at the same angle as the angle of the corresponding first pad line” because at least Fig. 6 of “Wildes” shows that pads 82 and 84 are not extending at the same angle as the corresponding conductors 86 and 88. Finally, there is no motivation for them to be combined because at least a technical field of “Hebiguchi” is different from that of “Wildes”. For at least this reason, claim 1 is patentable over “Hebiguchi” in view of “Wildes”. Accordingly, Claims 4 and 5 which variously depend on claim 1 are also patentable over “Hebiguchi” in view of “Wildes” at least for the same reason as claim 1.

By this response, claim 11 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Independent claim 11 is allowable over “Hebiguchi” in view of “Wildes” in that claim 11 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “...a plurality of pad lines extending at the first acute angle and interconnected between each of the plurality of orthogonal drive lines and pads, wherein the pads and the pad lines are formed at relatively large angles in a case where the drive lines are located at an upper or lower part of a driving circuit, and wherein the plurality of orthogonal drive lines include gate lines and data lines” (Emphasis Added). Similarly to claim 1, none of the cited references teaches at least these features of the claimed invention. First of all, on the page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that Fig.1 of “Hebiguchi” discloses “a plurality of pad lines”. As mentioned earlier, Applicant disagrees with this point. See figs. 1-2 and col. 4, lines 24-38. Particularly, col. 4 lines 26-27 show that G1, G2, G3 and G4 are four transversely-extending scanning lines which mean gate lines. Thus, the cited references including “Hebiguchi” fail to teach at least a plurality of pad lines. Furthermore, there is no motivation for them to be combined because at least a technical field of “Hebiguchi” is different from that of “Wildes”. For at least this reason, claim 11 is patentable over “Hebiguchi” in view of “Wildes”. Accordingly, Claims 13-15 which variously depend on claim 11 are also patentable over “Hebiguchi” in view of “Wildes” at least for the same reason as claim 1.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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